

Did You Know ?

Abby's Hugs

During the holiday season, the District 40 P & P Office and the Maryville Treatment Center Institutional Parole Office wanted to do something that would benefit the community. In lieu of an office gift exchange, the staff contributed money to the Abrielle Neff Foundation. This foundation is a nonprofit corporation established in memory of

Abrielle Neff, a 3 year old who lost her life in an automobile accident. One facet of the organization, called Abby's Hugs, works with St. Francis Hospital to dispense stuffed animals in an attempt to comfort children in the emergency room. The staff of both offices accepted the challenge and presented a check to the Foundation.



The ROC

The Missouri Re-Entry Process Network Committee in Boone County has captured the imagination and enthusiasm of their community. The Probation and Parole District 6 Office in Columbia and the Boone County Community Partnership were leaders in the development of the Re-Entry Opportunity Center, "The ROC". The ROC is located in the same building as the Division of Workforce Development, Job Point, Parent's Fair Share, a dental office, driver's license testing, GED classes and other programs. Outside agencies can meet with offenders there for job interviews, as well as other assistance. The District 6 Office has four officers assigned to the ROC building.



On September 27, 2007, they held a conference titled "Bringing Down the Walls", the purpose of which was to demystify who offenders are and to enhance awareness of re-entry in Missouri. There were over 130 attendees, and 40 applicants had to be turned away, as they were beyond the facility's capacity. People attended from all over Missouri. District 25 in Butler County is also developing a Re-entry Opportunity Center.

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www.doc.mo.gov

The Garden

District 12/Community Supervision Center (CSC) in Farmington worked with the Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry to provide fresh produce to residents in St. Francois County. The clients residing at the CSC planted a garden and grew various vegetables, watermelon and cantaloupe. They volunteered their time in the evenings and on weekends, and they had no problem finding residents who wanted to help. In the beginning, some could not recognize simple garden tools. By the end of the season, many of them worked like experts. Over 730 pounds of produce were donated to the food pantry. Next summer they plan to expand in size and add more varieties to the garden.



Hannibal GED Project

Recognizing that the most significant antidote to recidivism is education and employment, two officers from District 3 took the initiative to develop a partnership with the Hannibal Public Schools. In 2001, they collaborated to bring GED classes to the district office twice a week. These classes are open to the clients as well as the community. With the opening of a Community Supervision Center, it is planned to increase the number of classes. The school system, pleased with the success of this program, are eager to expand as well.

The St. Louis Project

District EP has formed an exciting partnership with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, teaming a probation and parole officer with a city police officer. This provides very intensive supervision to at risk offenders who reside in the Wells-Goodfellow neighborhood, a high crime area. This is a true team approach that is strongly committed to the principle that change is possible. Together, they use a Reality Therapy/Motivational Interviewing approach, applying sanctions when needed. The emphasis is on client success as they work to become more positive and productive members of the community.

The Team visits the clients in their homes, places of employment and treatment agencies. To make themselves as available as possible, their visits are conducted during nontraditional times. The Team benefits from the police department's knowledge of the area and its residents.



Missouri Board of Probation and Parole

Providing for the professional assesment and release of offenders and their supervision in the community using appropriate treatment, sanctions and controls, with the primary consideration being the promotion of public safety.

Bringing Down the Walls to Successful Integration

2007
Annual Report



Words from the Chairman: Steve Long

The year 2007 is significant in the history of Probation & Parole as we celebrate 70 years of service to the citizens of Missouri. The Division continues to evolve, establishing new projects, implementing innovative supervision strategies and working even closer with the institutions in offender rehabilitation. The ongoing efforts of our Missouri Re-entry Process continue to grow. Field and institutional staff are working together more than ever before to help make the transition from the institution to the field more productive. A few initiatives that have been implemented include the Transition Accountability Plan and video conferencing equipment. These actions will help the offender develop and work towards overcoming obstacles they have identified that contribute to their lack of success on supervision. Around the State, staff continue their efforts in community involvement, whether it is through an official community partnership or giving back to the community in charitable ways. All of these projects work hand-in-hand to help build relationships in the community by bringing down the walls and barriers to successful reintegration of our incarcerated offenders, and to foster safer communities.



70 Years of Service

In 1937, the Golden Gate Bridge was completed, the first jet engine was developed and a patent was issued for nylon. Antihistamine was developed to treat allergies. Amelia Earhart disappeared on her attempted flight around the world. The Hindenburg disaster occurred over Lakehurst, New Jersey, following a three day flight from Frankfurt, Germany. The population of Missouri was a little over three million residents and there were only 48 states in the United States.

In June 1937, Missouri Governor Lloyd Crow Stark signed into law the Missouri Board of Probation and Parole. The Parole Board consisted of three members: The Lieutenant Governor and two other members appointed by the Governor. Initially, Board members did not grant parole. They studied inmates and made recommendations to the Governor for parole, commutations of sentence and pardons. The Board did have the authority to parole and revoke inmates of three juvenile institutions.

The first Probation and Parole Office opened in the Missouri State Penitentiary. After a brief time, 13 field offices were opened across the state, with one officer hired for each office. To hire the first probation and parole officers, the State enlisted the help of the National Probation Association in developing a test to help select candidates. This was the first step toward a "merit system". Of 500 applicants who took the test, only 82 passed, 25 were interviewed and the first 13 officers were hired. These officers began their duties throughout the State on March 1, 1938. In 1940, there were 2,451 cases being supervised, of which only 11% were probation cases.

The current population of Missouri is well over 5,800,000 and continues to grow. With that growth, the population of offenders on supervision continues to increase as well. Currently, there are 52 district offices, 11 satellite offices, 2 community release centers and 3 community supervision centers with 1,239 probation and parole officers across the state supervising over 71,000 offenders. Through the development of innovative supervision strategies, Probation and Parole has adapted to meet the ever changing needs of our communities and offender population to ensure public safety.

The first P&P office opened in 1937.

Charitable Campaign

The Missouri State Employee Charitable Campaign began in 1986. During the 22 years of the campaign, employees have given a total of \$18,464,392.00, which has benefited as many as 1,177 charities. Last year a total of \$1,042,740.00 was raised by Missouri employees. In 2000 and every year since 2002, the Department of Corrections has led the State in donations. Last year the Division of Probation and Parole, which makes only 15% of the Department's staff, contributed 33% of the Department's contributions.

587 P&P staff pledged
\$52,799.80 to the Missouri
Charitable Campaign in 2007.

MRP Technology

The newest thing on the horizon for the Missouri Re-Entry Process is the introduction of video conferencing equipment. When this equipment is in place at all field and institutional offices, it will be possible for an offender to have face-to-face interviews with employers, organizations offering home plan options, field parole officers, family members when appropriate, as well as any other use deemed beneficial to their successful re-entry efforts.

Restitution collected: \$10,938,288
Community Service hours
performed: 300,620

Approximately 71,149 offenders
are supervised in our
communities.

Automated Minimum Supervision

In 2005, the Board of Probation and Parole contracted with Offender Link, Inc. to help supervise clients who were being monitored at the lowest need level of supervision. Previously, these offenders would mail in a report form each month verifying their current address and employment. This required the officer to manually document the monthly contacts. Through Offender Link, paper documents were replaced by monthly telephone calls to the call center which logged the contact and reported back to the supervising district. Initially, Offender Link only recorded these calls and relayed messages from the offender to the officer regarding address, phone number and employment changes. Recently, these services were expanded to provide more comprehensive monitoring of supervision requirements. This technology allows Probation and Parole to increase the number of offenders we are able to supervise at the minimum level and focus more attention on the higher risk/need population without reducing public safety.

Community Supervision Centers

The Probation and Parole Agency currently has three Community Supervision Centers (CSC's) operational in Farmington, St. Joseph and Hannibal. Work is in progress for CSC's in Kennett, Poplar Bluff, Fulton and Kansas City, with all four expected to be completed in 2008.



The intent is to focus on assessing, stabilizing and monitoring offenders with a high risk for revocation. Utilizing community resources better serves the community, as well as the offender, and allows the Department to delay the construction of new prisons.

Each CSC includes an administrative area that accommodates a probation and parole district office as well as dormitory style housing for offenders needing more structured supervision. The facilities provide classroom and program work areas, as well as meeting space for outside vendors offering services to residents and clients. These CSC's offer an alternative to incarceration by providing intensive supervision and treatment of offenders.

Sex Offender Update

As in the past, Probation and Parole has endeavored to provide the best practices in the supervision of sex offenders. Each year legislation continues to reflect the public's concern over this increasing population. Registration requirements and housing restrictions increase, while the manner in which these offenders victimize continues to change and allude detection. The continual change in the world of technology has created new challenges and Missouri has been vigilant in preparing for the supervision of this type of offender. In 2007 "My Space", a popular teen social networking website, identified and deleted thousands of convicted sex offenders from its service. Out of those, several hundred were identified as being from Missouri. They were quickly polygraphed to determine if they had contact with minors. As a further safeguard, Missouri is researching available programs and services for searching sex offender computers and/or monitoring their activity on the internet 24 hours a day. A pilot project will start in 2008 utilizing an internet monitoring service as a requirement if a sex offender is allowed to use a computer or have access to the internet.

DNA

Probation and Parole began collecting DNA samples on January 28, 2005. As of December 31, 2007, Probation and Parole staff collected 83,578 samples and the Division of Adult Institutions collected 45,069 samples. Department staff have invested approximately 10,720 hours in this effort.

Positive DNA hits collected by Probation and Parole and DAI have aided a total of 1,492 investigations by law enforcement from 2005 through 2007. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the larger the data base the more beneficial the program will be. The Department of Corrections has been credited with significantly increasing the amount of collections. This effort has greatly improved public safety in Missouri and other states as well. Once a week our Missouri samples are compared to unsolved crimes across the United States. We have had matches from New York to California.

MSHP DNA Hits: January through October 2007

